



**Title 25. Health Services**  
**Part 1. Texas Department of Health**  
**Chapter 265. General Sanitation**  
**Standards for Public Restroom Facilities**  
**§§265.121-265.123**

§265.121. General Provisions.

(a) Scope. These sections apply to facilities where the public congregates. This includes sports and entertainment arenas, stadiums, community and convention halls, specialty event centers, and amusement facilities.

(b) Exclusion. The term "facilities where the public congregates" does not include hotels, churches, restaurants, bowling centers, public or private elementary or secondary schools, or historic buildings.

(c) Purpose. The purpose of these sections is to prescribe minimum standards for the availability of sufficient temporary or permanent restrooms to meet the needs of the public at peak hours at publicly- and privately-owned facilities where the public congregates.

(d) Penalty and enforcement. The statutory penalty and enforcement provisions covering violations of Chapter 341 and these sections are contained in the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 341, §341.091 and §341.092.

(e) Applicability date. These sections apply to facilities on which construction is started on or after January 1, 1994, or on which structural alterations, repairs, or improvements exceeding 50% of the entire facility are undertaken on or after January 1, 1994.

§265.122. Definitions. The following words and terms, when used in these sections, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Approved - Approved by the Texas Department of Health, the local health authority, or the local building code enforcement officer, whichever shall maintain jurisdiction.

(2) Chemical toilets - A toilet facility in which human waste is collected in a container charged with a chemical for the purpose of disinfecting and deodorizing prior to disposal.

(3) Construction - The actual, physical initiation of the building process such as the clearing of land, moving of dirt or preparation of a building to begin work.

(4) Exceeding 50% of the entire facility - Structural alterations, repairs, or improvements with a cost exceeding 50% of the worth of the facility, as determined by the taxing authority maintaining jurisdiction.

(5) Facilities where the public congregates - Sports and entertainment arenas, stadiums, community and convention halls, specialty event centers, and amusement facilities. The term does not include hotels, churches, restaurants, bowling centers, public or private elementary or secondary schools, or historic buildings.

(6) Historic buildings - Buildings listed as historic by the Texas Historical Commission.

(7) May - Used to denote authorized alternatives to mandatory provisions of this regulation.

(8) Portable toilet facilities - mobile trailers or prefabricated, skid mounted, or otherwise portable structures.

(9) Restroom - Toilet, chemical toilet, or water closet.

(10) Sanitary condition - That condition of good order and cleanliness which precludes the probability of disease transmission.

(11) Shall (or must) - Used to denote mandatory provisions of these sections.

(12) Should - Indicates provisions which are not mandatory, but which are recommended as good practice.

(13) Standards - Methods, practices, processes or operations necessary or appropriate to establish healthful conditions as determined by the authority having jurisdiction.

(14) Temporary - A use not exceeding 30 days in one calendar year.

(15) Toilet or toilet facility - A plumbing device for the purpose of defecation or urination, or both, including water closets and biological or chemical toilets, and urinals.

(16) Toilet room - An enclosed area containing one or more toilet facilities and offering personal privacy. Toilet rooms may be either permanently located (fixed) or portable.

(17) Urinal - A water flushed fixture connected with a sewer, maintained within a toilet room for the sole purpose of urination.

(18) Water closet - A toilet facility which is connected to a sewer and flushed with water.

#### §265.123. Standards for Toilet Facilities and Toilet Rooms.

(a) General standards.

(1) Toilet facilities shall be provided in separate toilet rooms for both sexes in all facilities where the public congregates. They shall be readily accessible to all users.

(2) Toilet facilities shall be either water-actuated, chemical, or biological toilets. Other systems may be used only upon specific permission of the health authority having local jurisdiction.

(3) If the use of restrooms is designated by gender, toilet facilities shall be provided for each sex at a ratio of not less than 2:1 women's to men's or according to the following table:

Water Closets (Fixtures per Person)		Urinals (Fixtures per Person)
Male	Female	
1:1-100	3:1-50	1:1-100
2:101-200	4:51-100	2:101-200
3:201-400	8:101-200	3:201-400
	11:201-400	4:401-600
Over 400, add one fixture for each additional 500 males and 2 for each 300 females.		Over 600 add 1 fixture for each additional 500 males.

(4) Portable toilet facilities shall be used only for temporary outdoor activities.

(5) Toilet rooms and facilities shall be maintained in a sanitary condition, free of objectionable odors during all hours the facility is open to the public. The floors, walls, ceilings, partitions and doors of all toilet rooms shall be of a finish that can be easily cleaned. Floors shall have a smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface such as portland cement, concrete, ceramic tile or other approved material which extends upward onto the walls at least five inches. Materials used in such walls shall be of a type not adversely affected by moisture. Walls within two feet of the front and sides of a urinal and water closets shall have a smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface of portland cement, concrete, ceramic tile or other smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface to a height of four feet. An adequate supply of toilet paper in a suitable holder shall be maintained for each toilet. Covered waste receptacles shall be provided in all toilet rooms used by women.

(b) Specifications for toilet facilities and rooms at fixed locations.

(1) Each toilet facility (water closet) at a fixed (permanent) location shall occupy a separate compartment equipped with a door and latch. Walls within two feet of the front and sides of a urinal and water closet shall have a smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface of portland cement, concrete, ceramic tile or other smooth, nonabsorbent surface to a height of four feet. Walls or partitions between fixtures shall be sufficiently high to assure privacy. Urinals do not need to occupy separate compartments.

(2) Each toilet facility shall be so installed that the space around it can be easily cleaned. Walls within two feet of the front and sides of a urinal and water closet shall have a smooth, hard nonabsorbent surface of portland cement, concrete, ceramic tile or other smooth, nonabsorbent surface to a height of four feet. This provision does not prohibit the use of wall-hung toilet stools or urinals.

(3) Each toilet seat shall have a seat made of substantial material having a nonabsorbent finish.

(4) Toilet rooms at fixed locations that are not ventilated by mechanical means shall be provided with screened ventilation with openings of not less than one twentieth of the floor area.

(c) Specifications for portable toilet facilities and rooms.

(1) Portable toilet facilities shall be so constructed as to be readily accessible.

(2) Buildings housing temporary toilet rooms may be mobile trailers or prefabricated, skid-mounted, or otherwise portable structures. If they contain more than one facility, each shall occupy a separate compartment with a door and a latch. Walls or partitions between toilets shall be sufficiently high to assure privacy. Urinals need not occupy separate compartments.

(3) If the structure contains a tank in which waste is stored, the tank shall be vented to the outside of the structure.

(4) Portable toilet rooms that are not ventilated by mechanical means shall be provided with an adequate screened ventilation opening.